The invention relates to a method of reading magnetic information by means of a read head including a magneto-resistive rod RMR, which is to be polarized by means of an electrical signal Imr and serves to supply a data signal Vmr whose variations are representative of the magnetic-field variations to which the read head is exposed.

The method in accordance with the invention includes a compression step of the data signal Vmr, which compression step is triggered off when a thermal asperity is detected.

The invention enables amplifiers arranged downstream from the device to be protected against peaks in the data signal, without altering the latter under normal operating conditions. Application: hard disk readers.

Fig. 1<sup>3</sup>

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